

# Half an Hour Before the War

## No. 1 of Songs for the Abandoned

For mixed voices, a cappella

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**Moderato**  $\text{♩} = 120$  *p* *sotto voce*

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Half an hour be - fore the war.

In Sam-ar-ra In Sam-ar-ra

5 In Sam - ar - ra *div.* *p* In Sam - ar - ra

S In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra

A *p* *sotto voce* In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam -

8 In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra

S In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra

A In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra

- ar - ra *div.* *p* In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra

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2

11 In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra

S

- ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam -

A

In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra

T

*mf* In Sam - ar - a, the im - am stirred

B

*mf tutti* In Sam - ar - a, the im - am stirred

14 In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra

S

- ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam -

A

In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra

T

8 stirred weak jas - mine tea,

B

stirred weak jas - mine tea,

17 In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra

S

- ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra

A

In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra In Sam - ar - ra

T

8 nod - ding to the a - da - mant whorls of the su - ra

B

nod - ding to the a - da - mant whorls of the su - ra

[illegible]

23

S  
lea-ther, which of your Lord's bles-sings would you de - ny?

A  
lea-ther, which of your Lord's bles-sings would you de - ny?

T  
8  
lea-ther, which bles-sings

B  
lea-ther, which of your Lord's bles-sings would you de - ny?

27

T *p* *sotto voce*

8 While at Bagh-dad While at Bagh - dad

B *p* *sotto voce*

While at

30

T While at Bagh-dad While at Bagh-dad While at Bagh-dad

B Bagh-dad While at Bagh-dad While at Bagh-dad

*div. p* While at Bagh-dad *div.* While at

33

S While at Bagh - dad

A While at Bagh - dad

T While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

B Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

*mf* While at Bagh - dad *mf* While at Bagh - dad

*p* While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

35

S the new bride pant - ed

A the new bride pant - ed

T While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

B Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

37

S in the blue ho - - - tel,

A in the blue ho - - - tel,  
While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

T While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

B Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

39

S knead - ing this strange pair of shoul - ders

A knead - ing this strange pair of shoul - ders  
While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

T While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

B Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad While at

40

S gone slack \_\_\_\_\_ at

A gone slack \_\_\_\_\_ at  
While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

T While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

B Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad While at

6

42

S last.

A last.

T While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

B Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad While at

While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

44

S Smear - y with hen - na,

A Smear - y with hen - na,

T While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

B Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad While at

While at Bagh - dad While at Bagh - dad

46

*Slower*

S lust - rous. Sev-en-teen years old. Ah

A lust - rous. Sev-en-teen years old. Ooh

T While at Bagh-dad Ah Ah

B Bagh - dad

While at Bagh-dad Ooh Ooh

52

S Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah

A Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh

T *mf* (close to n)  
8 The air - man \_\_\_\_\_ who would tar-get that

B *mf*  
The air - man \_\_\_\_\_ from New Or-le-ans \_\_\_\_\_ who would tar-get that

58

S Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah

A Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh

T (close to n)  
8 roof \_\_\_\_\_ was-n't think-ing of news - men \_\_\_\_\_

B roof \_\_\_\_\_ was-n't think-ing of news-men re - gret-ting col - lat - er - al

64

S *mf*  
Ah He was dream-ing some Sun-day, \_\_\_\_\_

A Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh

T *p*  
8 Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah

B *p*  
dam-age. \_\_\_\_\_ Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh

71

S beign - ets at the Ca - fe du Monde

A Ooh Ooh Ooh when his daugh-ter had time.

T Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah

B Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh Ooh

*mf*

### Tempo Primo

77

S *p sotto voce* Half an ho-ur Half an ho-ur Half an ho-ur *div.*

A *p sotto voce* Half an ho - ur Half an

T Ah Ah

B Ooh Ooh

82

S Half an ho-ur Half an ho-ur Half an ho-ur Half an ho-ur

A *p* Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur Half an  
ho - ur Half an ho - ur *div.* *p* Half an ho-ur Half an ho-ur



86 Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur

S

ho - ur Half an ho - ur Half an

A

Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur

T

*mf* 8 Cas - cades of the Tig - ris

B

*mf* Cas - cades of the Tig - ris

88 Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur

S

ho - ur Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur Half an

A

Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur

T

8 col - li - ded be - low the gun tur - rets,

B

col - li - ded be - low the gun tur - rets,

90 Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur

S

ho - ur Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur Half an

A

Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur

T

8 be - hind the high ri - ses, be - side

B

be - hind the high ri - ses, be - side

10  
92

S Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur *f* Then came jets per-fo - rat-ing rad-ar,

A ho - ur Half an ho - ur *f* Then came jets per-fo - rat-ing rad-ar,

T Half an ho - ur Half an ho - ur *f* Then came jets per-fo - rat-ing rad-ar,

B 8 the mosques. Then came jets per-fo - rat-ing rad-ar,

96

S miss-les sten-ciled with the names of girls, the gas-works go-ing up,

A miss-les sten-ciled with the names of girls, the gas-works go-ing up,

T 8 miss-les sten-ciled with the names of girls, the gas-works go-ing up,

B miss-les sten-ciled with the names of girls, the gas-works go-ing up,

101

S *fire* the door of fire. Then came the war. *Slower*

A the door of fire. Then came the war.

T *fire* the door of fire. Then came the war.

B the door of fire. Then came the war.